Construction of Thalassery-Mahe bypass in Kerala

2276. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:
SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has approved the construction of Thalassery-Mahe bypass starting from Muzhappilangad in Kannur district and joining at Azhiyoor in Kozhikode district of total length 18.031 km in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details of the project and the progress so far made in its implementation;

(c) whether it is a fact that the land acquisition of the second phase of the project is progressing at a slow pace; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to speed up the land acquisition and early construction of the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The construction of Thalassery-Mahe bypass has been included in the project of 4-laning of Kannur-Vengalam (Kozhikode district) section of NH 17 in Kerala (Km 148.00 to km 230.00) under National Highway Development Project (NHDP)-Phase III. The Letter of Award (LOA) has already been issued to lowest bidder. Presently land acquisition is in progress.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Inclusion of Thrissur-Kanyakumari stretch under NHDP

2277. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has agreed to include Thrissur-Kanyakumari stretch in the proposed National Expressway Network under the National Highway Development Programme (NHDP);

(b) if so, whether the Kerala Government has requested the Centre to extend this stretch upto Kasargod so as to cover the entire length of the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) to (c) The Ministry had awarded a Consultancy Services for Formulation of a Master Plan for the National Expressway Network in the country. The Final